

Application Serial No.: 10/532,701
Amdt. Dated: July 14, 2008
Reply to Final Office Action of January 16, 2008

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Final Office Action dated January 16, 2008, and the references cited therein have been carefully considered. In response to the Final Office Action, Applicant has canceled all of the rejected Claims 9-14 and has introduced new Claims 15-21 for consideration. Applicant has also concurrently filed a Request-for-Continued-Examination (RCE).

Telephone Interview

Applicant would first like to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to the Applicant's attorney during a telephone interview initiated by Applicant's attorney on May 9, 2008. While no agreement was reached during the course of the interview, the Examiner's advice was helpful to Applicant in drafting new Claims 15-21 presented herein.

New Claims 15-21

New Claim 15 defines a panel assembly including a support pole, a first panel attached to a first side of the support pole, a connecting bolt received in the support pole for attaching the first panel to the support pole and a nut attached to the connecting bolt to secure the end bar to the support pole. New Claim 20 defines a method for attaching panels to a support pole. In both Claims 15 and 20, the panels are defined by a structure of welded bars having at least one end bar, and a connecting bolt having a threaded stem extending orthogonally from a head and a longitudinal through slit forming a hollow is utilized to attach the panels to the support pole.

None of the cited references, taken alone or combined, disclose a panel assembly or a method of attaching panels, as defined in new Claims 15 and 20. Instead, all of the cited references relate to connectors for electrical wires. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that new Claims 15 and 20 patentably distinguish over the prior art.

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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, favorable consideration and allowance of the application with Claims 15-21 are respectfully solicited. If the Examiner believes that another telephone interview would assist in moving the application toward allowance, he is respectfully invited to contact the Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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